

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, the first paragraph between lines 3-5:

The present invention relates to a particle board ~~according to the precharacterizing part of claim 1~~ and also relates to a method of manufacture according to the precharacterizing part of Claim 6 of a particle board.

On page 4, the paragraph between line 19-20 and insert the text

The object is also achieved by the method of manufacture ~~described in the introductory part comprising the steps specified in Claim 6:~~
of a particle board which has a lower and an upper surface layer having a finer fraction of particles, and between these surface layers an intermediate layer having a coarser fraction of particles, the method comprising the following steps:

- - even distribution of the finer fraction of particles, forming a first particle mat for forming said lower surface layer;
- - distribution of the coarser fraction of particles, forming a second particle mat, on top of the finer fraction of particles by means of a distribution arrangement in such a way that at least in one area the coarser fraction of particles is applied more thickly than in at least one surrounding part;
- - even distribution of the finer fraction of particles, forming a third particle mat, on top of the coarser fraction of particles for forming said upper surface layer; and
- - compressing of the first, second and third particle mats whilst the thickness of said intermediate layer remains essentially constant, so that said intermediate layer has a varying density.